

PLACYNTHIUM (Ach.) S. F. Gray, A GENUS OF LICHENS
PREVIOUSLY UNREPORTED FROM AUSTRALIA

by

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During my tenure of a fellowship from the Australian National University, 1967-1968, I had the opportunity of collecting lichens intensively in New South Wales. From these collections I report the following two species of *Placynthium* (Ach.) S. F. Gray, a genus for which there are no previous records from Australia (Weber & Wetmore 1972).

Placynthium nigrum (Huds.) S. Gray. New South Wales—5 miles east of Cooma on road to Numeralla, on limestone outcrop above the stream, *Weber & McVean* L-49054, 2.x.1967 (COLO); head of Neringla Creek, 3 miles NE of The Big Hole near Krawaree, east of the Shoalhaven River, on limestone in wet sclerophyll forest, 2500 ft alt., *Weber & McVean* L-49723, 19.iii.1968 (COLO). This species is characterized by having squamulose lobes and usually a prominent, bluish-black prothallus. A common and widely distributed species in Europe and North America.

Placynthium subradiatum (Nyl.) Arn. New South Wales—Bungonia Lookdown, on rimrock above Shoalhaven River Gorge, on massive limestone boulders, *Weber & McVean* L-48907, 10.iv.1968 (COLO, CANB, MEL). This species has a thallus with radiating, contiguous marginal lobes; characteristically the interior portions of the thallus flake off in age leaving arcs of tissue formed by the leading edges. A species widely distributed in Europe and North America (Henssen 1963).

REFERENCES

- Henssen, Aino (1963)—The North American species of *Placynthium*. *Canad. J. Bot.* 41:1687-1724.
- Weber, William A., & Wetmore, Clifford M. (1972)—Catalogue of the lichens of Australia exclusive of Tasmania. *Nova Hedwigia, Beih.* 41:1-137.

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